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February 23, 2021

Ellen C. Wheatley, Ph.D.  
Acting Director Office of Child Care  
Department of Health and Human Services  
330 C Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Dr. Wheatley,

The Miccosukee Corporation, Lead Agency for the Miccosukee Early Learning Center, is pleased to submit this informational report in response to the Program Information (CCDF-ACF-PI-2021-01) issued on February of this month.

Based on guidance received at the OCC webinar on Friday, February 19, 2021, we understand that the Lead Agency is not expected to have, at this time, a completed budget for the funds received. However, it is requested to inform the Office of Childcare (OCC) of its present plans for the future obligation of the funds, with the understanding that these plans may and will probably change. The Miccosukee Corporation has a clear understanding that the final obligations report will be due on October 31, 2022. With that in mind, we are pleased to submit our responses for the required categories as follows:

**Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)**

Yes, the Miccosukee Corporation does plan to use CRRSA funds to provide direct child care services at the Miccosukee Early Learning Center, a Tribally run center, to community families in need of services. These services will be extended to children of essential Tribal workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus.

**Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices**

Yes, the Miccosukee Corporation plans to use CRRSA funds to purchase sanitation equipment and supplies, which support the health and safety practices and policies suggested by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Tribal Healthcare Leaders.

**Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers**

Yes, the Miccosukee Corporation plans to use CRRSA funds to support the availability of childcare services provided at the Miccosukee Early Learning Center. Funding will be appropriated to the maintenance of the facility, personnel salaries and, if necessary, increased staffing. This funding will supplement the Tribal funding of operating expenses during COVID-19.

**Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic**

Yes, the Miccosukee Corporation plans to use a portion (Dollar amount or Percentage to be stipulated by the Miccosukee Corporation) of the CRRSA funds to contract CCDF-eligible childcare providers, on a consultant basis, to provide childcare services to children enrolled in the Tribal Pre-K Aftercare Program operated by the Miccosukee Early Learning Center.

**Other**

In order to adhere to the new COVID-19 policies and protocols, the Miccosukee Corporation plans to use a portion of CRRSA funds to purchase outdoor furnishings and play equipment. Doing so will allow the Miccosukee Early Learning Center to promote increased outdoor activities.

Please feel free to contact any of the Miccosukee Early Learning Center Administrators should you have any questions/concerns at 305-894-2364 Ext. 2504.

Sincerely,

/s/

Miccosukee Early Learning Center Administrator

/s/

Miccosukee Early Learning Center Administrator

/s/

Miccosukee Early Learning Center Cultural Administrator